

# Spark Gap

Volume 25, Issue 12, December 2008 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for Twenty-Five Years*

## Steve Carmean, K9DY, Amateur of the Year



Steve Carmean, K9DY,  
2008 Indiana  
Amateur of the Year

*The Official  
Newsletter of the  
Mid-State Amateur  
Radio Club*

**MARC**

Mid-State Amateur  
Radio Club  
P.O. Box 836  
Franklin, IN 46131  
[www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org)

MARC's treasurer, Steve Carmean, K9DY, was awarded the Indiana Radio Club Council (IRCC) 2008 Amateur of the Year award at the IRCC Forum during the Ft. Wayne Hamfest on November 15, 2008. On hand to see Steve win was his wife Marsha, along with several members of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club, Jack Parker W8ISH, Dave Daily KB9LOT, Marc Snell KC9CCM, and Linda Harshbarger KC9GCH.

A good time was had by all at the hamfest with lunch following at the local Pizza Hut. The weather was rainy that day but temperatures stayed above freezing.

Also present to see the presentation was the out-going Indiana Section Manager, Jim Sellers K9ZBM and the incoming Section Manager, John Poindexter, W3ML.

Other nominees included Tony Langer W9AL, Steve Shorter NT9T both whom attended the presentation and Bill Walker N9RI, Delbert Felix WY9I, and Tim Miller

K9US.

The IRCC Forum was very well attended as was the previous forum on Emergency Communications. Our ARRL Central Division Director, George Isely W9GIG led a very lively discussion on the subject.

Congratulations go out to Steve for his very well earned award. Steve serves the club as Treasurer and as our Sunday night net control. He finds time to help technically challenged hams (like our PIO) by installing their equipment and antenna and by teaching a chapter at each Technician level class.

Steve participates in most of the club's activities such as Field Day, Hill Topper, and WRT Strawberry Fest. He generally is one of the first on scene and the last to leave and always is prepared with equipment and supplies. He's even been known to share food with other participants who fail to bring their own supplies.

K9DY serves as a great example for new hams, old hams and hams in between. It's great to have him as part of the MARC club. Congratulations Steve!



A view of the Ft. Wayne Hamfest. Photo by KC9GCH..

# ARRL Section News

Section Manager election results were announced on November 18, 2008. According to the article on the ARRL website, after ballots had already been mailed out to ARRL members in the Indiana Section, Ray Andrews wrote to the ARRL Headquarters withdrawing his candidacy due to health concerns. As such, the Section Manager's position for the new term starting in January was considered vacant because Andrews won the majority of votes. According to the Rules and Regulations of the Field Organization, vacancies in the office of Section Manager shall be filled by appointment by the ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager, in consultation with the respective Section's Director. After ARRL MVP Manager Dave Patton NN1N, consulted with ARRL Central Division Director George "Dick" Isely W9GIG, John Poindexter W3ML, has been appointed Indiana Section Manager with a term to begin January 1, 2009. Poindexter's term of office will be for 18 months - instead of two years - because this new term of office in Indiana had to be resolicited.

Poindexter has been a radio amateur since 1979 and has held appointments as an Assistance Emergency Coordinator, past president of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Club, and president of the Starke County Amateur Radio Club. He is active in public service communications, DXing, and contesting. Poindexter has already released a motto for 2009; "We are Active".

Recently issued bulletins include:

## IN-ARRL Bulletin 16 12/08/2008

The clubs and members of the ARRL have been asked by the FCC to aid in education efforts regarding the transition to digital television broadcasting and information on installing converters where they are needed.

# ARRL News Cont.

## IN-ARRL Bulletin 17 12/13/2008

Indiana Section Manager Elect John Poindexter issued a follow-up bulletin to Bulletin 16 with a recommendation on how Indiana clubs should respond and assist with the request made by the ARRL. For a complete copy of the above bulletins or for more information contact: Brian Murrey - KB9BVN IN-ARRL Bulletin Manager at 317-535-9887 or via e-mail at kb9bvn@arrl.net.

## IN-ARRL Bulletin 18 12/14/2008

From ARRL Indiana Section Manager Elect John Poindexter W3ML.. He is looking for updates for the INARRL.org web page and info on classes, workshops, club e-mail and web site addresses. Send info to w3ml@arrl.org. For a complete copy of the above bulletin or for more information contact: Brian Murrey - KB9BVN IN-ARRL Bulletin Manager at 317-535-9887 or via e-mail at kb9bvn@arrl.net.

## IN-ARRL Bulletin 19 12/14/2008

From the newly appointed Indiana Technical Coordinator Jim Osburn WD9EYB... He is looking for ARRL Indiana members to appoint as Technical Specialists. The bulletin lists the field appointment description and the website in order to apply for the position. Contact him at wd9eyb@arrl.net. For a complete copy of the above bulletin or for more information contact: Brian Murrey - KB9BVN IN-ARRL Bulletin Manager at 317-535-9887 or via e-mail at kb9bvn@arrl.net.

It's looking like a very busy year for the Indiana ARRL. If you haven't yet decided to become a member, please take another look. Membership in the ARRL helps to support and grow the hobby.

## Officers

**President:**  
**Jack Parker,**  
**W8ISH**

**Vice President:**  
**Dave Daily,**  
**KB9LOT**

**Secretary:**  
**Carol Osborne,**  
**KC9CFK**

**Treasurer:**  
**Steve Carmean,**  
**K9DY**

**Repeater Trustee:**  
**Jay Chrisman,**  
**AA9YP**

**Spark Gap Editors:**  
**Bob LaGrange,**  
**N9SIU**

**Linda**  
**Harshbarger,**  
**KC9GCH**

## Hamfest Info

The Dugger Amateur Radio Club's **2009 Hamfest** will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2009 at the Sullivan Fairgrounds in Sullivan, Indiana. Hamfest opens at 7:00 AM. Talk-in is at 146.775 - MHz (136.5 Hz PL). Admission is \$5.00 with children 12 and under free. For more information go to [www.kc9ak.or/hamfest.html](http://www.kc9ak.or/hamfest.html) website.

The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2009 at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds, 3901 US Highway 41 South in Terre Haute, Indiana. Talk-in is on 146.685 MHz (151.4 Hz PL). For more information contact Ginger Downing, WB9ZHC at [wb9zhc@verizon.net](mailto:wb9zhc@verizon.net).

The **26th Annual Columbus Hamfest** will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at the Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, Community Building, 750 W 200S in Columbus, Indiana. Hamfest hours are 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Talk-in will be on 146.79 MHz (-600 kHz 100 Hz PL). Tickets that day are \$5.00 or \$4.50 in advance. For more information contact Marion Winterber, WD9HTN at [carc\\_in@yahoo.com](mailto:carc_in@yahoo.com).

The MARC VE team will be at the Columbus Hamfest testing that day.

If you know of any other Indiana hamfests coming up, please contact Linda at [PIO@midstatehams.org](mailto:PIO@midstatehams.org).

## Club Dues

It's that time again to support the club and the club repeater by paying yearly dues. Dues are still \$18.00/year. Please see Steve Carmean K9DY, at the December or January meeting. He will also have a listing of club members and call signs. The list is only available to paid up club members. Thanks for your support! It's greatly appreciated.

When paying dues, please let Steve know if you are a member of the ARRL. We continue our Special Services Club status with 50% or greater membership in the ARRL. An ARRL membership helps to support the hobby.

## VEC Testing

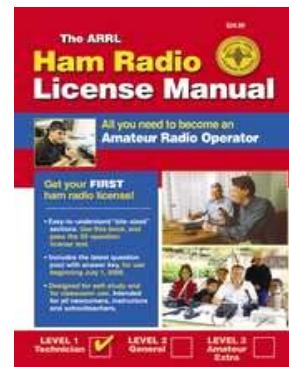
Our Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) team is ARRL accredited, and capable of administering any amateur radio test. As a public service, the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club sponsors test sessions after all but one of its monthly meetings. (September testing is done prior to the picnic.) Meetings begin at 8:00 AM with testing following the meeting (begins about 9:30 AM until 11:00 AM). We would love to have you join us for the meeting. Please check out our website at [www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org) for directions.

## Technician Class

Spring classes should begin sometime between the middle of February to the middle of March. As soon as a firm start date is known, information will be placed on our website. The class schedule will include 1 class per week for 4 weeks (6:30 PM to 8:30 PM). The club will again be purchasing books so if you know someone who wants to attend, have them get a hold of KC9GCH, Linda at 887-2558. Classes are limited to 14 students.

Linda will firm up the start date by the end of January and securing instructors. If you haven't yet taught a class but would like to do so, please let her know. The manual includes 7 chapters and we try to have a different instructor for each chapter.

There is a generic flyer on our website so if you know of anyone with an interest in becoming a ham, please print it out and pass it along.



**WA9RDF**  
**Repeater**  
**146.835/**  
**146.235 MHz**  
**151.4 Hz PL**  
**Tone**

**Weekly Net**  
**Every Sunday**  
**at 7PM ET**

**Tune in to hear**  
**the ARRL**  
**Newsline!**

*The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club sponsors a weekly traffic and social net on our repeater. The net begins at 7:00 p.m. local time, and features local news, announcements, and NTS traffic, as well as rebroadcasts of Amateur Radio Newsline. This is a great chance to meet other local amateur radio operators and test your operating skills.*

# 2008/2009 Schedule of Events

## DECEMBER 2008

**20 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**

Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN.  
VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM)

**21 Winter Begins**

**25 Christmas**

## JANUARY 2009

**1 New Year's Day**

**17 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

## FEBRUARY 2009

**21 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

## MARCH 2009

**5 Dugger Amateur Radio Club's Hamfest, Sullivan, IN**

Sullivan Fairgrounds, Sullivan, IN Opens 7:00 AM; Talk-in 146.775 (PL 136.5)

**14 Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association (WVARA), Terre Haute, IN**

Wabash Valley Fairgrounds, 3901 US Hwy 41 South, Terre Haute, IN  
Talk-in 146.685 (PL 151.4) For more info contact [wb9zhc@verizon.net](mailto:wb9zhc@verizon.net)

**21 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

**28 Columbus Hamfest, Columbus, IN**

Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, Columbus, IN; Talk-in on 146.79 (PL 100)  
MARC's VE Team will be there testing.



Jack Parker, W8ISH, Chairperson of the Indiana Radio Club Council (IRCC), presents Steve Carmean, K9DY, the Indiana Ham of the Year Award during the IRCC Forum at the Fr. Wayne Hamfest Hamfest on November 15, 2008. Looking on are Gary Adams, W9EEU, IRCC Vice Chairperson who announced the results, and Tony Langer W9AL, an award nominee.



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## Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the THIRD SATURDAY of each month in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

**See our website, [www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org), for maps on how to get to our meeting.**